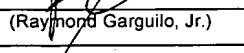


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 21, 2006

Signature: 

(Raymond Garguilo, Jr.)

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIIPCIPCIPCON IV  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Errico et al.

Application No.: 10/642,523

Filed: August 15, 2003

For: AXIALLY COMPRESSIBLE ARTIFICIAL  
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC HAVING  
LIMITED ROTATION USING A  
CAPTURED BALL AND SOCKET JOINT  
WITH A SOLID BALL AND RETAINING  
CAP

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Group Art Unit: 3738  
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Examiner: B. E.  
Pellegrino  
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**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed December 14,  
Applicant submits the following amendments and remarks.

A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith thereby extending the time for responding the Official Action from March 14, 2006 to and including April 14, 2006.